

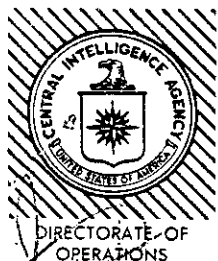
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# Intelligence Information Cable

IN 2446497  
PAGE 001 OF .003

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FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1)  
- Intelligence Sources and  
Methods

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REPORT CLASS - ~~SECRET~~ - UNINTEL -   - ORCON

POLITICAL MATTERS

CITE    
DIST 10 MAY 79

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA/FRANCE

~~FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~

SUBJECT: PLANS FOR IMPROVING FRENCH - ARGENTINE RELATIONS,  
INCLUDING RELEASE BY ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OF TWO  
FRENCH PRISONERS  



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1. AS PART OF A PLAN TO IMPROVE RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE  
AND ARGENTINA, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO RELEASE  
TWO ARGENTINE-FRENCH DUAL NATIONALS AT THE REQUEST OF THE FRENCH  
GOVERNMENT. THEY ARE VIVIANE JACOB, WHO WAS ARRESTED IN  
DECEMBER 1975 AND CONDEMNED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON, AND  
JULIO PIUMATO, WHO WAS ARRESTED IN JUNE 1976, AND  
CONDEMNED TO SEVEN YEARS IN PRISON. THE PLAN CALLS FOR  
VIVIANE JACOB TO BE RELEASED SOMETIME IN LATE APRIL OR MAY  
1979 AND FOR PIUMATO TO BE RELEASED BY THE END OF 1979. PIUMATO'S  
CASE IS SOMEWHAT MORE COMPLICATED BECAUSE HE WAS TRIED BY A  
MILITARY TRIBUNAL.   COMMENT:  

  VIVIANE JACOB WAS ARRESTED IN

Declassified Case: 17W- 54739 Date: 10-24-2013

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59 JUN 25 1979

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IN 2446497

PAGE 002 OF 003

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CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

DECEMBER 1975 AND CONDMNED TO FOUR YEARS IN PRISON ON CHARGES  
OF BEING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY  
(ERP).

2. THE AGREEMENT TO RELEASE THESE TWO PRISONERS WAS REACHED  
IN A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN LT. GENERAL ROBERTO ~~X~~ V I O L A,  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY, AND MAURICE ~~X~~ P A P O N,  
FRENCH BUDGET MINISTER DURING THE LATTER'S APRIL 1979 VISIT TO ARGENTINA.  
ONE OF PAPON'S AIDES REQUESTED THE MEETING BE  
HELD BECAUSE THE FRENCH THOUGHT THE VISIT WAS GOING BADLY.  
PAPON THOUGHT THAT HE HAD BEEN SNUBBED WHEN JOSE ALFREDO  
M A R T I N E Z D E H O Z, MINISTER OF ECONOMY, KEPT HIM  
WAITING FOR TWENTY MINUTES; THE ARGENTINES HAD NOT MADE ANY  
CONCRETE COMMITMENTS TO THE FRENCH ON A U.S. 800 MILLION  
DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR AN OIL PIPELINE IN SOUTHERN ARGENTINA;  
AND THE ARGENTINES HAD NOT APPEARED WILLING TO RELEASE FRENCH  
PRISONERS AS THEY HAD IN AUGUST 1978.

3. ANOTHER PART OF THE PLAN TO IMPROVE FRENCH-ARGENTINE  
RELATIONS WILL BE A TRIP BY A HIGH-RANKING ARGENTINE  
COMMERCIAL DELEGATION TO FRANCE IN JUNE 1979. MEMBERS  
OF THE DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE FREDERICK C A M B A,  
SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS, DANIEL  
B R U N E L L A, SECRETARY OF ENERGY, AND LUIS G O T E L L I,  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF BUSINESSMEN. TWO MORE FRENCH  
DELEGATIONS ARE TO VISIT ARGENTINA IN JULY AND AUGUST.

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IN 2446497

PAGE 003 OF 003

WARNING NOTICE  
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

FRANCE IS INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING A "LATIN BLOC" TRADING  
GROUP MADE UP OF NATIONS GENERALLY HAVING A "LATIN" TRADITION,  
AND SEES ARGENTINA AS BEING THE VANGUARD NATION IN LATIN  
AMERICA. OTHER POSSIBLE MEMBERS WOULD BE ITALY, PORTUGAL,  
GREECE, ROMANIA AND THE PHILLIPINES.

4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: PAPON'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA WAS PART  
OF A PREVIOUSLY REACHED ARRANGEMENT TO IMPROVE FRENCH-ARGENTINE  
RELATIONS THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF COMMERCIAL DELEGATIONS  
AND ARGENTINE AGREEMENT TO RELEASE FRENCH NATIONALS. [REDACTED]

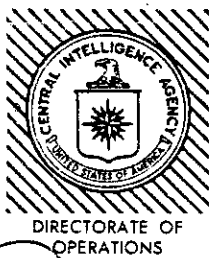
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REPORT CLASS - ~~SECRET~~ - WARNING NOTICE - INTELLIGENCE  
SOURCE AND METHODS INVOLVED. [REDACTED]

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- Intelligence Sources and  
Methods

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23  
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Intelligence Information Cable

IN 2420307

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT PAGE 001 OF 003  
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.

[REDACTED]

Classified by [REDACTED]  
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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- Intelligence Sources and Methods

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REPORT CLASS - ~~SECRET~~ - UNINTEL - [REDACTED]

POLITICAL MATTERS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CITE [REDACTED]

DIST 04 MAY 79

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

LT. GENERAL ROBERTO V I O L A WILL BE NEXT PRESIDENT  
OF ARGENTINA [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED]

LT. GENERAL

ROBERTO V I O L A, ARMY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, WILL BE THE NEXT  
PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA. [REDACTED] VIOLA AS

EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT AND CAPABLE AS CONTRASTED TO PRESIDENT  
JORGE RAFAEL V I D E L A, WHO HE CONSIDERS INDECISIVE,

UNINTELLIGENT BUT AMBITIOUS. THE JUNTA, WITH THE SUPPORT

OF THE NAVY, WILL SELECT VIOLA IN JULY 1980. THE CURRENT MAY 17 1979

PLAN IS THAT VIOLA WOULD BE THE LAST PRESIDENT SELECTED BY

THE JUNTA AND THAT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD DURING

HIS TERM. VIOLA HAS AGREED TO THIS PLAN, ALTHOUGH [REDACTED] HE

HAS SAID THAT THE MILITARY WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE GOVERNING

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IN 2420307

23  
MAY 18 1979

WARNING NOTICE  
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 002 OF 003

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO  
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1)  
- Intelligence Sources and  
Methods

UNTIL AT LEAST 1987.

2. [REDACTED] VIOLA'S PRIVATE COMMENTS

ARE DESIGNED TO MOLLIFY SENIOR ARMY LEADERS WHO FAVOR AN EXTENDED  
PERIOD OF MILITARY RULE. [REDACTED] MAJOR GENERALS

ALBANO ~~X~~ H A R G U I N D E G U Y, MINISTER OF INTERIOR;  
CARLOS GUILLERMO ~~X~~ S U A R E Z ~~X~~ M A S O N, CHIEF OF STAFF  
OF THE ARMY; LUCIANO ~~X~~ M E N E N D E Z, COMMANDER OF THE THIRD  
CORPS AND LEOPOLDO FORTUNATO ~~X~~ G A L T I E R I, COMMANDER OF  
THE FIRST CORPS. [REDACTED] THAT VIOLA'S DECISION TO  
STEP DOWN AT THE END OF 1979 COULD BE MODIFIED AND HIS TERM CAN,  
AND PROBABLY WILL, BE EXTENDED UNTIL JULY 1980 WHEN THE JUNTA WILL  
SELECT THE NEXT PRESIDENT. [REDACTED]

*Argentina*

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3. [REDACTED] BY 1982 OR 1983 WHEN ELECTIONS  
WOULD BE HELD, AN ANTI-ELECTION FACTION IN THE ARMY WOULD NOT  
BE ABLE TO MOUNT AN EFFECTIVE OPPOSITION. AT PRESENT THERE  
IS NO ONE PERSON IN THE ARMY WITH ENOUGH PRESTIGE OR ENOUGH  
OF A FOLLOWING TO MOUNT SUCH A CAMPAIGN. [REDACTED]

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IN 2420307

PAGE 003 OF 003

WARNING NOTICE  
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVEDFURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO  
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORTFOIA(b) (3) - 50 USC  
3024(i) (1) - Intelligence  
Sources and Methods

MAJOR GENERAL ANTONIO DOMINGO ~~X~~ B U S S I, COMMANDER OF THE  
BORDER POLICE (GENDARMARIA) IS THE ONLY OFFICER WITH THE  
POTENTIAL FOR RECOGNIZING SUCH A LEADER. HE IS HOWEVER, A VIOLA  
LOYALIST AND WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO MOUNT AN ANTI-ELECTION  
CAMPAIGN. BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSE MARIA ~~X~~ V I L L A ~~X~~ R E A L,  
DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE FIRST CORPS, HAS PRESIDENTIAL  
AMBITIONS AND MIGHT OPPOSE ELECTIONS. COLONEL MIGUEL  
~~X~~ M A L L E A ~~X~~ G I L, UNDERSECRETARY FOR INSTITUTIONAL  
RELATIONS IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY, MIGHT ALSO OPPOSE  
ELECTIONS.

*Argentina*

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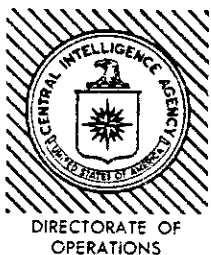
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# Intelligence Information Cable

IN 2421156

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT PAGE 001 OF 003  
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.



FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC  
3024(i)(1) - Intelligence  
Sources and Methods

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REPORT CLASS - ~~SECRET~~ - [REDACTED]

CITE [REDACTED]  
DIST 04 MAY 79

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: INTENTION OF MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

TO SET UP AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

[REDACTED]

ARGENTINA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SET UP A POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE NETWORK FOR THE MINISTRY  
OF THE INTERIOR AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL. [REDACTED]

MAKING THEE REQUEST ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER,  
MAJOR GENERAL ALBANO VARGAS GUINDEY. [REDACTED]

HARGUINDEGUY BELIEVES THAT SUCH A SERVICE  
IS NECESSARY BECAUSE HE IS CONVINCED THAT HE IS BECOMING  
POLITICALLY ISOLATED AND THAT ALL PROVINCIAL LEVEL POLITICAL

ARGENTINA

MAY 18 1979

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IN 2421156

WARNING NOTICE  
 INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 002 OF 003

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO  
 CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC  
 3024(i)(1) - Intelligence  
 Sources and Methods

INFORMATION IS BEING CHanneled THROUGH THE VARIOUS ARMY CORPS  
 HEADQUARTERS TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN BUENOS AIRES, THUS BY-  
 PASSING HIM. HARGUINDEGUY WANTS TO BE KEPT INFORMED BY A  
 SELECTED NETWORK OF HIGH LEVEL PROVINCIAL FIGURES. WHEN  
 QUESTIONED [REDACTED] REGARDING FUNDS AVAIL-  
 ABLE FOR MOUNTING SUCH AN OPERATION, THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL  
 REPLIED THAT MONEY WOULD BE NO PROBLEM.

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4.

[REDACTED] ARMY COMMANDER-

IN-CHIEF, LT. GENERAL ROBERTO VIOLA, IS ATTEMPTING TO IS-  
 Olate HARGUENDEGUY AND LESSEN HIS INFLUENCE AS MINISTER OF  
 THE INTERIOR. VIOLA'S REASONS FOR THIS ARE THAT HARGUNDEGUY  
 IS IN FAVOR OF ELIMINATING THE CENTRAL UNION AUTHORITY OF  
 ARGENTINE LABOR UNIONS VIA THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS  
 LAW AND THAT AS A HARDLINER, HE HAD OPPOSED VIOLA'S POLICIES  
 ON THE BEAGLE CHANNEL DISPUTE. VIOLA'S FIRST STEP IN LESSEN-  
 ING HARGUINDEGUY'S INFLUENCE HAS BEEN TO REQUIRE PROVINCIAL  
 GOVERNERS TO REPORT TO CORPS COMMANDERS IN THEIR REGIONS  
 RATHER THAN TO THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR. THIS WAS BEGUN  
 IN THE FIFTH CORPS REGION IN APRIL 1978 WITH A MEETING BE-  
 TWEEN GOVERNORS OF THE SOUTHERN PROVINCES AND FIFTH CORPS  
 COMMANDER, MAJOR-GENERAL ANDRES V A G U E R O. WHEN VIOLA

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IN 2421156

WARNING NOTICE  
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 003 OF 003

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO  
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

ASKED LUCIANO B. ~~X~~ M E N E N E D E Z, THIRD CORPS COMMANDER,  
TO HOLD A SIMILAR MEETING, HE REFUSED. (SOURCE COMMENT: AS  
A PROMINENT HARDLINER, MENENDEZ'S REFUSAL WAS PROBABLY A  
GESTURE OF SUPPORT FOR HARGUINDEGUY).

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3024(i)(1) - Intelligence  
Sources and Methods

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